1. (canceled)

2. (canceled)

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

5. (canceled)

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A method of manufacturing a bracelet, comprising the steps of:

cutting a laminar metal strip to a desired length and width, said laminar metal strip having first and second parallel, opposed, generally planar major surfaces;

coating at least said first major surface with a metal marking layer;

subjecting the coated piece of sheet metal to a laser beam, whereby heat generated by the laser beam causes selected regions of the metal marking layer to form ~~a~~ at least one ceramic design that is adhered to at least said first major surface;

removing all portions of the marking layer that has not been heated by the laser beam and adhered to at least said first major surface;

bending the metal strip to form a bracelet having a generally C-shaped side profile, and wherein said first and second major planar surfaces are transformed to curvilinear surfaces.

9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said laser beam is a component of a computer-controlled, raster-scanning infrared-energy-emitting carbon dioxide (CO_2) laser system that scans in a Y-axis direction and moves in an X-axis direction as it

directs energy on a planar major surface of the metal-marking-spray-covered laminar metal strip.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the coated ~~piece of~~ laminar ~~sheet~~ metal strip is affixed to a positioning table of said raster-scanning infrared-energy-emitting carbon dioxide CO_2 laser system as it is subjected to the laser beam.

11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said laminar metal strip is selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, aluminum, tin, copper, brass, chromed steel, titanium, niobium, tantalum, silver, gold, palladium, platinum, pewter, and alloys thereof.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim 8, wherein the metal marking layer comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of molybdenum trioxide, ~~at least one~~ a vanadium-containing compound, mica group minerals, and crystalline silica.

13. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the metal marking layer is applied to the laminar metal strip as an ethanol-based solution by spraying.

14. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein the metal marking layer is selected from the group consisting of LMM-6000, RD-6038, RD-6012, and LMM-5001.

15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (new) The method of claim 8, which further comprises:

coating said first and second major surfaces with a metal marking layer;

subjecting each of the coated first and second major surfaces to a laser beam, whereby heat generated by the laser beam causes selected regions of each metal marking layer to form a ceramic design that is adhered to said first and second major surfaces.

22. (new) The method of claim 8, wherein said metal marking layer comprises titanium dioxide.

23. (new) The method of claim 8, wherein the metal marking layer comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of bismuth trioxide, antimony oxide, lead oxide, vanadium pentoxide, molybdenum trioxide, an alkaline earth silicate, or an alkaline or an alkaline-earth aluminosilicate, that preferably melts below about 1,300°C.

24. (new) The method of claim 8, wherein the ceramic design so formed has a thickness within a range of about 10 to 30 microns.

25. (new) The method of claim 8, which further comprises the step of rounding any square corners on said laminar strip.

26. (new) The method of claim 8 wherein said bending step is performed using a slip roller device.

27. (new) A method of manufacturing a bracelet, comprising the steps of:

cutting a laminar metal strip to a desired length and width, said laminar metal

strip having first and second parallel, opposed, generally planar major surfaces;

rounding any sharp edges and corners of the metal strip;

coating at least said first major surface with a metal marking layer;

subjecting the coated piece of sheet metal to a laser beam, whereby heat generated by the laser beam causes selected regions of the metal marking layer to form at least one ceramic design that is adhered to at least said first major surface;

removing all portions of the marking layer that has not been heated by the laser beam and adhered to at least said first major surface;

bending the metal strip to form a bracelet having a generally C-shaped side profile, and wherein said first and second major planar surfaces are transformed to curvilinear surfaces.

28. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein said laser beam is a component of a computer-controlled, raster-scanning infrared-energy-emitting carbon dioxide (CO_2) laser system that scans in a Y-axis direction and moves in an X-axis direction as it directs energy on a planar major surface of the metal-marking-spray-covered laminar metal strip.

29. (new) The method of claim 28, wherein the coated laminar metal strip is affixed to a positioning table of said raster-scanning infrared-energy-emitting carbon dioxide CO_2 laser system as it is subjected to the laser beam.

30. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein said laminar metal strip is selected from the group consisting of stainless steel, aluminum, tin, copper, brass, chromed steel, titanium, niobium, tantalum, silver, gold, palladium, platinum, pewter, and alloys thereof.

31. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the metal marking layer comprises titanium dioxide and at least one compound selected from the group consisting of bismuth trioxide, antimony oxide, lead oxide, vanadium pentoxide, molybdenum trioxide, an alkaline earth silicate, or an alkaline or an alkaline-earth aluminosilicate, that preferably

melts below about 1,300°C.

32. (new) The method of claim 27, wherein the metal marking layer is selected from the group consisting of LMM-6000, RD-6038, RD-6012, and LMM-5001, and is applied to said laminar metal strip as an ethanol-based solution by spraying.

33. (new) The method of claim 27, which further comprises:

coating said first and second major surfaces with a metal marking layer;

subjecting each of the coated first and second major surfaces to a laser beam, whereby heat generated by the laser beam causes selected regions of each metal marking layer to form a ceramic design that is adhered to said first and second major surfaces.